

Exercise: Identifying English Vowels -- KEY

- (a) State whether the vowel sounds of the words in each pair are the same (S) or different (D) .
(b) Consulting the list of English vowels in your text, give the phonetic symbol for the vowel in each word/pair of words.

1) say, bake
S or D: S
Symbol(s): e

11) they, weigh
S or D: S
Symbols: e

2) show, shoe
S or D: D
Symbol(s): o, u

12) mother, stop
S or D: D
Symbols: ʌ, ɑ

3) meat, great
S or D: D
Symbol(s): i, e

13) cow, slow
S or D: D
Symbols: ɑw, o

4) plaid, sad
S or D: S
Symbol(s): æ

14) bother, nod
S or D: S
Symbols: ɑ

5) some, nun
S or D: S
Symbol(s): ʌ

15) head, bet
S or D: S
Symbols: ε

6) receive, believe
S or D: S
Symbol(s): i

16) laugh, caught
S or D: D
Symbols: æ, ɑ (or ɔ)

7) height, site
S or D: S
Symbol(s): ɑy

17) buy, time
S or D: S
Symbols: ɑy

8) blood, food
S or D: D
Symbol(s): ʌ, u

18) read (pres.) , read (past)
S or D: D
Symbols: i, ε

9) sigh, fly
S or D: S
Symbol(s): ɑy

19) low, plow
S or D: D
Symbols: o, ɑw

10) new, do
S or D: S
Symbol(s): u

20) grain, gauge
S or D: S
Symbols: e